

#### CASSIDY MONTANA WOOD

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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SIERRA BOUCHER, LILY ENGEBRECHT, NATASSIA TUHOVAK, HANNAH WHELAN, and CASSIDY WOOD,

Plaintiffs,

- against - Case No. 1:22-cv-00381-CCR

TRUSTEES OF CANISIUS COLLEGE,

Defendant.

MONTANA WOOD, Plaintiff, taken pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, in the law offices of HODGSON RUSS LLP, The Guaranty Building, 140 Pearl Street, Suite 100, Buffalo, New York, on August 23, 2024, commencing at 9:37 a.m., before LYNNE E. DIMARCO, Notary Public.

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- A. No.
- Q. Was there any kind of finished work product that was created after this trip?
  - A. No.
- Q. Was a student named \_\_\_\_\_\_on this trip?
- A. Yes, was on that trip.

  That was definitely another area of concern that had come up, because I had heard from that they had like a more than professional relationship.

But, again, I heard it secondhand. She did kind of get like some special treatment on the trip. She would get her own room when the rest of us were sharing. She was older than us.

And I didn't really see what role she had as any sort of TA or anything like that. So it was definitely odd, but because I didn't personally witness anything beyond his usual over invasive like casual touching, what he saw as casual, it didn't raise to the level of alarm that would cause me to say anything about it beyond to my friends.

Q. So at the time of the trip, were you

11:45:45 1 alarmed by their relationship, by the relationship



- Q. Why were you grossed out?
- A. They had a massive age gap and he was her professor and I think that's inappropriate.

So I thought it was inappropriate, but alarming, no, because I didn't necessarily feel like personally in peril because of it.

- Q. What was inappropriate about their relationship that you saw?
- A. I think the fact that he was in a position of power over her as a professor. Like naturally that to me is alarming. I don't think it's appropriate for an educator to have a relationship with a student, period.

And as someone who worked with students for many years like I feel very strongly about that.

Even if they are both consenting adults, they had a relationship that naturally had a power dynamic.

And I think that is inappropriate, I thought that it was inappropriate at the time and I still think that's inappropriate.

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11:46:47 1 Q. So you're saying -- strike that. So you heard from \times that they had a 2 11:46:49 relationship, right? 11:46:53 3 Α. 11:46:54 Yes. 4 11:46:54 Did you see them having anything that 5 Q. 11:46:57 6 indicated a relationship between them? Objection to form, beyond what 11:46:58 MS. NANAU: she's already testified to, is that what you're 11:47:02 8 11:47:06 9 asking? 11:47:06 10 BY MS. NAASSANA: 11:47:07 11 Q. Yes, yeah. 11:47:07 12 He would touch her in the same way he would touch all of his female students, so like, 11:47:10 13 11:47:14 14 you know, touch her hair, you know, touch her hips. 11:47:17 15 But, again, it was the same degree of 11:47:20 16 inappropriateness that I at that point was groomed 11:47:24 17 to think was acceptable. 11:47:27 18 And so beyond that I did not see them 11:47:31 19 explicitly kissing on the mouth or anything to that 11:47:35 20 caliber, no. So if you saw Dr. Noonan touch 11:47:38 21 XXX in the same way he touched other students,

why did you think this was inappropriate?

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MS. NANAU: I'm going to object to the form, misstates the testimony, you can answer.

THE WITNESS: He was very open with students about his escapades and his like sex life and relationships. And I knew that as a person and as my friend, that is not something he would make up or say lightly. He was a very -- he still is a very serious person and he was not one for gossip.

Noonan that they had a relationship, I knew that was true. I took that very much as true and I didn't feel like I needed to see it for myself to know that it was true, because Jay was not someone to sensationalize something like that or to get gratification of like spreading gossip, in quotations.

### BY MS. NAASSANA:

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Q. Did strike that. Sorry.

A. He did not specifically call out

Courtney to me, personally. Other people I knew he

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did explicitly call out that it was her, but he frequently in subsequent years referred to his relationship with a 30-year-old student.

And there was not any doubt in my mind that he was talking about \times n.

MS. NAASSANA: I'm going to move to strike the non-responsive portions of the answer. Lynne, could you please repeat the original question.

(The above-requested question was then read by the reporter.)

MS. NANAU: Objection to the form, asked and answered, you may answer.

#### BY MS. NAASSANA:

- Q. So yes or no, what's the answer to that question?
  - A. No.
- Q. Did Courtney Moran ever tell you that she had a relationship with Dr. Noonan?
  - A. No.
- Q. I want to turn to the Uganda trip for a moment. The trip to Uganda, was this a Canisius

  Ambassadors for Conservation trip?
  - A. Yes, it was.

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that it's a really challenging -- it's a really challenging path to pursue. And I was still very much interested in pursuing it, but it wasn't a meeting that was particularly encouraging.

- Did you schedule a follow-up meeting Q. with Dr. Suchak after that development session?
- Not to my knowledge. Again, I had regular -- well, like once a semester check-ins with her on just like my academic progression and

So, you know, I think the graduate school session gave me enough information that I didn't feel the need for a follow-up one-on-one.

- Q. Okay. So at some point, Ms. Wood, you applied for the Project Tiger trip to India, right?
  - Α. Correct.
  - What was the purpose of that trip? Q.
- The purpose of that trip was to create Α. a film documentary about both like wild tiger conservation and also the issue of private tiger ownership across the United States.
- Was there a limit on the number of Ο. students who could go on the trip?

class selection in general.

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- Α. No.
- So were -- strike that.
- work behind the camera filming?

Did any other students other than Sierra and

- Α. No.
- Q. Okay. Were Sierra and going to be responsible for editing that footage after the trip?
  - Α. Yes.
  - So if I say -- strike that. Q.
- So were Sierra and XXXXXXXXX part of the Project Tiger video team?
  - Α. Yes.
- Q. Okay. So how did your group -- how did the Project Tiger group prepare for India?
- So as I previously mentioned, I was Α. deeply prepared, I had spent hundreds of hours preparing. But the actual India portion of the trip, he didn't give us any reading materials until after we had left for India.
- And so there were some reading materials very unmemorable to be honest. I think there were more relevant things we could have been reading.

So there was that, but there was also preparing for like actually being on camera, which involved he made us have a pre-meeting with him to bring the clothes we were going to wear and try them on to make sure he found them to be acceptable.

We had like group meetings leading up to it to the point of Hannah Whelan who was studying abroad in Ireland at the time was staying up till odd hours of the night to be able to be phoned in, because he wanted those touch points with us.

And so, yeah, a series of group meetings of like clothing reviews and of like conversations as to what to expect going in.

- Q. How often did you meet as a group?
- MS. NANAU: Objection to the form, you may answer.

THE WITNESS: It was pretty ad hoc based on availability and Noonan's whim when he felt like he had something to talk to us about.

As a full group, I would say as we got into like October and November we were meeting at least two or three times a month.

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And then like in smaller factions we would be meeting with him separately. So I know Sierra XXXXX were meeting with him separately on how to prepare for the actual filming.

Lily and I were meeting with him a lot more frequently than the rest of the group pertaining to all this advanced research we were doing, yeah.

#### BY MS. NAASSANA:

- Where would your meetings happen, did Q. the location change or where did they happen?
- Yeah, the location would change. Sometimes they would be in one of the library conference rooms, sometimes they would be in the smaller conference rooms above Old Main. smaller group meetings would always be in his lab or in his office.
- Did you travel anywhere to prepare for Q. the Project Tiger trip?
  - I mean, to Florida. Α.
  - Other than Florida? 0.
- But other than Florida, no. At least Α. in advance of India.

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12:25:38	1	MS. NAASSANA: May I this marked as
12:25:40	2	Exhibit U.
12:25:40	3	The following was marked for Identification:
	4	EXH. U Bates stamped Canisius 01376
12:26:04	5	BY MS. NAASSANA:
12:26:08	6	Q. This is an e-mail from Dr. Noonan dated
12:26:11	7	October 18th, 2018 right?
12:26:15	8	A. Uh-huh, yes.
12:26:17	9	Q. This e-mail references a taping at the
12:26:23	10	Buffalo Zoo. And it's addressed to the Project
12:26:29	11	Tiger students. Did you attend this taping at the
12:26:32	12	Buffalo Zoo?
12:26:33	13	A. Yes, I did.
12:26:34	14	Q. What happened?
12:26:35	15	A. I got there late because I had a work
12:26:38	16	commitment. And so I traveled separately than the
12:26:42	17	rest of the group and parked outside of the zoo and
12:26:45	18	met Noonan and the group at one of the back gates.
12:26:50	19	We went in, we mic'd up doing Noonan's usual
12:26:56	20	style of very prescriptively putting them through
12:27:00	21	our shirts for us.
12:27:01	22	And we went into like a Buffalo Zoo
12:27:03	23	conference room. I can't remember if we called in

12:27:06	1	Hannah Whelan or not. And we asked interview
12:27:10	2	questions to I think it was the carnivore curator
12:27:15	3	of the zoo, yeah.
12:27:17	4	Q. Okay. And who did the taping at this
12:27:22	5	Buffalo Zoo outing?
12:27:24	6	A. I want to say that one was Noonan.
12:27:27	7	Q. Okay.
12:27:28	8	A. Like I don't remember it being Sierra
12:27:31	9	or \times but it could have been, but I know
12:27:34	10	Noonan was behind the camera for at least part of
12:27:38	11	that interview.
12:27:43	12	Q. Okay.
12:27:48	13	MS. NANAU: Do you want to have that for
12:27:49	14	your records?
12:27:55	15	MS. NAASSANA: I think another few minutes
12:27:56	16	and we can take a lunch break, if you want.
12:27:59	17	MS. NANAU: That would be great. Thank you.
12:28:15	18	Off the record.
12:28:20	19	(Discussion off the record: 12:28 p.m.)
12:28:55	20	MS. NAASSANA: Can I have this marked.
12:28:55	21	The following was marked for Identification:
	22	EXH. V Bates stamped Canisius 01379
	23	through 01380

#### BY MS. NAASSANA: 12:29:29 1 So these are e-mails from Dr. Noonan in 12:29:29 2 October of 2018, right? 12:29:33 3 Uh-huh. Α. 12:29:35 4 MS. NANAU: Yes? 12:29:36 5 12:29:37 6 THE WITNESS: Yes, I'm so sorry. 7 12:29:39 MS. NANAU: It's okay. BY MS. NAASSANA: 12:29:43 8 9 He wrote, quote, what would be your 12:29:44 availability for a Project Tiger road trip to 12:29:46 10 12:29:49 11 Florida with stops along the way over spring break. 12:29:56 12 Yes. 0. You were interested in this potential 12:30:01 13 12:30:04 14 spring break trip to Florida, right? 12:30:07 15 Α. I wasn't just interested in it, I had 12:30:11 16 planned it. I mean, I'm laughing because it says I've been developing a thought, as I have been 12:30:14 17 further exploring the idea of visiting tiger sites 12:30:18 18 in the U.S. 12:30:22 19 He didn't do that, that was me. I was the 12:30:23 20

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So, yes, I was onboard with it, I suggested

one who had a proposed itinerary of like what that

could look like that I had discussed with him.

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12:30:35 2 Q. When did you suggest this to

12:30:38 3 Dr. Noonan?

A. Late September, early October. Around the same time I was developing that institutions list, I realized that most of them are in the southern U.S.

And there was a cluster in Florida but there was also a cluster in areas like Louisiana and more towards like the Midwest. And we couldn't do them all at once.

So there had been a lot of discussion between him, Lily and I about whether it made sense to do like one big trip or if like a smaller trip to one area and then another trip to another area would make sense.

So this was really just an early scoping of whether it would be possible to have other people join that, and, yeah.

- Q. Okay. But and you confirmed your availability for that potential trip to Dr. Noonan, right?
  - A. Correct.

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- Q. Okay. Thank you. When you arrived in 12:31:37 2 India, where did you land?
  - A. We landed in Delhi.
  - Q. Who drove you from the airport to your next location?
  - A. When we first got there it was late and we went to a hotel to just kind of crash for the night. And I think that night it was some generic prearranged transportation.

And then the following day from that point on it was -- generally it was a mix between Manjeet who was our guide in India and Noonan himself.

- Q. Did Dr. Noonan do any driving at all in India?
  - A. Yes, he did.
- Q. What -- did any concerns or issues arise during that trip to India?
- MS. NANAU: Objection to form, you may answer.

THE WITNESS: Yes. I mean, he constantly would do what he would call girl talk. He always wanted to know about our dating lives, our sex lives, if we would date someone older, what our

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physical type was, would we like a guy who would get in a fist fight or bar or not. I mean, you name it, he asked it.

He would talk about his own personal relationships, his divorce with his wife, who he always called his wife in spite of their divorce.

He would talk about his 30-year-old graduate student girlfriend, and don't we think that's normal. Anything and everything under the sun regarding any sort of like sexual or romantic interaction.

There was nothing off base for him. Do we want kids, do we want to be pregnant, when would we want to be pregnant. Yeah, there was nothing off-limits in his eyes.

And one specific instance I remember is when we were driving to I think it was our second location which was near Kuno National Park, and he brought up previous complaints that had been made against him specifically by I think other professors and one student who had gotten really agitated with him and made accusations towards him at like some sort of forum.

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And honestly, I mean, he droned on for a while and it had been a long day and I was just -- I knew with him sometimes you just had to let him yap, because otherwise he would never shut up.

And I remember him specifically lamenting how silly it was that they would come up against him.

And that he was very close be President

Hurley and he can't -- you know, he's untouchable.

He said the words I'm untouchable. And really just

like drove home what I had already gathered at that

point, which is that he was a golden child of the

administration, he was untouchable, and that his

behavior was pervasively accepted day in and day

out by the faculty he worked with and by the

administration. But, again, it was just like

another drop in the bucket.

### BY MS. NAASSANA:

- Q. Did he make these comments in India?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. You mentioned you were going to a second location and he brought up previous complaints. What was the nature of those

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1 complaints that he said that others had brought 2 about him?

A. Well, he had talked about the Me Too Movement. And so while he didn't talk about any specific like harassing or sexual allegations against him, that was my assumption is that there was a nature of that there.

And then he brought up one for sure that was someone accusing him of being sexist. And then with the other one it was complaints about the quality of his science and, you know, what he did with rats at the university, and that's really all I remember.

Q. When you say the Me Too Movement, what do you mean, did somebody complain -- strike that.

Did Dr. Noonan tell you that somebody had complained about something related to Me Too Movement and him?

A. He had talked about how good men, good men were being put on blast because people these days are so sensitive. And that, you know, implied to me that he was likening himself as one of those good men who was just getting complaints because

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12:37:12 1 people were too sensitive and not because they were
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And he specifically referenced Bill Cosby and how he didn't think what Bill Cosby did was that bad.

- Q. Did he say somebody complained about something he said about the Me Too Movement or --
- A. No, he was just broad stroke talking about the Me Too Movement and likening it to his experience of having complaints raised against him.
- Q. Okay. You mentioned that he was accused of being sexist or -- strike that.

You mentioned that he told you he was accused of being sexist, right?

- A. Yes.
- Q. Who, if you know, did he -- strike that.

Did he tell you who accused him of being sexist?

- A. If he did, I don't remember.
- Q. Did he use the word complaints in that conversation?
  - A. Yes.

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- A. Not that I recall.
- Q. Okay. How did this conversation get brought up?
  - MS. NANAU: Objection to form, you can answer.

THE WITNESS: I couldn't tell you the specific segue into this conversation. All I can say is that this was constantly the nature of conversations with him was like overly inappropriate sexualized in nature, sharing way more than anyone should share with a student.

And so it just felt like par for the course.

It felt like any other regular conversation with

him, because that was always the nature of how we
interacted with him on any given day.

#### BY MS. NAASSANA:

- Q. So and during this entire conversation was Lily asleep?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. And did anyone else hear this conversation, or no?
  - A. Again, not that I recall. I'm pretty

1 sure she was the only one in the car. Nobody
2 wanted to sit back with her in case she yacked.

- Q. Poor Lily. Did he tell you at all who the -- I think you sort of answered this already, but did he tell you at all the name of the professor or the name of anyone who had complained about him, or you just can't remember?
- A. I was going to say I can't answer that with any confidence.
- Q. Okay. Did he tell you when these complaints had occurred?
  - A. He said over the years.
  - Q. Okay. Okay.
- A. But he didn't tell me any specific dates.
- Q. After you had this conversation with Dr. Noonan, did you share it with any of the other students on the trip?
  - A. Yes.
  - Q. Who?
- A. Honestly, probably all of them, because later on that trip is when he -- I mean, early on in the trip he was being problematic, but as the
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trip progressed, he became increasingly like in an escalating way more and more problematic.

And we were spending every -- every day and every night and every waking moment we could get away from him talking about him and what to do about his behavior. And so it was a hundred percent relevant to those conversations.

And I'm sure I mentioned it at some point, because, again, we were already trying in India to come to terms with who he was as a person and what we needed to potentially do about it.

- Q. When you were in India, did you share that conversation that you had with Dr. Noonan with your parents or siblings?
- A. We didn't have connectivity to do so, so, no, you know. The first place we stayed for any significant length of time was Tiger Don (phonetic) which is outside of Ranthambhore

  National Park, and I think we had some Wi-Fi there.

we had gone at that point to some lodge outside of Kuno National Park and our only form of connectivity was like one desktop computer in the

But the -- as he progressed and got worse,

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lobby of the lodge that had like a 10-minute time limit, was really slow, so we were really isolated. There wasn't a way to really communicate what was going on at that point to anyone.

- Q. Okay. You mentioned that Dr. Noonan's behavior on the trip was problematic. What do you mean by that?
- A. I mean he was rude and racist to the guides and the locals, you know. For example, our guide, Manjeet, actually took it upon himself to start tipping like our drivers and such on game drives, because the amount that Noonan was giving was so insulting that he was afraid it was going to impact his professional relationships with them.

And would constantly, you know, say like, oh, I don't understand what you're saying to someone who was very articulate, it's not that hard to understand someone who has English as a second language.

And, honestly, it's really impressive for anyone to have learned English as a second language. So just to begin with he was terrible and I was embarrassed to be with him in that

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13:54:21 1 cried on the floor of the bathroom, that's 2 something I carried but it was not a rape that 13:54:21 happened to me, no. 13:54:24 3

- And this information that you heard 0. about the cross country team, that was information that you heard secondhand?
  - Α. Correct, through Lily, yes.
- Did you, yourself, participate on the cross country team?
- MS. NANAU: Objection, asked and answered, you may answer.

THE WITNESS: No, I did not.

MS. NAASSANA: I never asked if she participated on the cross country team.

MS. NANAU: You asked about activities.

#### BY MS. NAASSANA:

- Did you -- just to clarify. Have you Q. ever at any point participated as a member of the cross country and track and field team at Canisius?
  - No, I have not. Α.
- Okay. The meeting with the Title IX Q. office, that was with Ms. Walleshauser, right?
  - Correct.

### 13:55:34 23 Α.

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13:55:34	1	Q.	With Ms. Linda Walleshauser, right?
13:55:37	2	A.	Correct.
13:55:37	3	Q.	About how long was that meeting?
13:55:39	4	Α.	Less than 30 minutes.
13:55:41	5	Q.	Did you speak up at that meeting?
13:55:44	6	Α.	I'm sure I chipped in, but we had
13:55:47	7	decided goi:	ng into the meeting that again we wanted
13:55:50	8	to have a s	trategy of how we approached it and we
13:55:54	9	wanted Hann	ah Whelan to kind of be representing the
13:55:55	10	experience	as the whole and then the rest of us add
13:55:58	11	to that as	needed.
13:56:02	12	Q.	Where did that meeting take place?
13:56:06	13	A.	In the Title IX, HR, whatever that
13:56:09	14	office was.	

Q. And what did Ms. Walleshauser say at 13:56:14 16 | that meeting?

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A. I couldn't tell you one thing she said. 13:56:18 18 I could tell you what she didn't say, which was 13:56:22 19 sorry that happened to you, that's really messed up.

I do remember leaving knowing that she would 13:56:25 22 be following up with us individually to get more information.

13:56:30	1	Q. Did you record this meeting with
13:56:33	2	Ms. Walleshauser?
13:56:34	3	A. Not that day, no.
13:56:36	4	Q. Do you know if anyone else recorded
13:56:38	5	that meeting?
13:56:39	6	A. To my knowledge, no one did.
13:56:41	7	Q. Do you remember Ms. Walleshauser's
13:56:44	8	reaction during that meeting?
13:56:47	9	A. I would say she was pretty impassive,
13:57:01	10	apathetic.
13:57:01	11	Q. Did you provide any documents to
13:57:05	12	Ms. Walleshauser at that meeting as a group?
13:57:07	13	A. Not that I remember.
13:57:08	14	Q. Were you living on or off campus during
13:57:11	15	that semester, spring 2019 semester?
13:57:15	16	A. I was living off campus.
13:57:17	17	Q. Where?
13:57:17	18	MS. NANAU: Objection, asked and answered,
13:57:19	19	you may answer.
13:57:19	20	MS. NAASSANA: I was 1 Blain Avenue, which
13:57:22	21	was like a street over from Canisius. It was just
13:57:26	22	a house, student housing. I mean, not owned by
13:57:31	23	Canisius but student housing.

13:57:36	1	BY MS. NAASSANA:
13:57:36	2	Q. Was it like an apartment building or a
13:57:39	3	house?
13:57:39	4	A. No, it was a house.
13:57:41	5	Q. So you didn't have like an RA or
13:57:44	6	resident director or something like that?
13:57:46	7	A. No.
13:57:47	8	Q. Okay. Were you aware of any concerns
13:57:54	9	about Dr. Noonan being reported to any Canisius
13:57:58	10	employee prior to February 11th, 2019?
13:58:00	11	MS. NANAU: Objection to form, other than
13:58:01	12	what she's testified?
13:58:03	13	MS. NAASSANA: Yes.
13:58:03	14	MS. NANAU: Other than what you've already
13:58:06	15	testified to.
13:58:06	16	THE WITNESS: At the time of the first
13:58:09	17	meeting with Linda, I knew that Tassia had been in
13:58:15	18	communication with Dr. Hogan and that Leanne Mason
13:58:21	19	had also been in communication with Dr. Hogan, and
13:58:21	20	as a result had been connected with Title IX.
13:58:57	21	
13:58:58	22	aware that they had gone to Dr. Hogan.
13:59:02	23	BY MS. NAASSANA:

Because, again, we had a tight turnaround time. We were trying to get this done quickly. And also I didn't really have like much to go off

14:00:23 23

13:59:02 1 Q. Any other concerns about Dr. Noonan 2 that you're aware of being reported to any Canisius 13:59:05 employee prior to February 11, 2019 other than what 13:59:08 3 you've already talked about? 13:59:13 4 13:59:14 No, only what I heard through him. 5 Α. 13:59:16 6 Q. Okay. -- strike that. So after this group meeting on February 13:59:19 11th, 2019, did you meet with Ms. Walleshauser 13:59:32 8 individually? 9 13:59:36 Yes, I did. 13:59:37 10 Α. 13:59:42 11 Q. Do you remember when you next met with 13:59:45 12 her? Yeah, it was like within a day or two, 13:59:46 13 Α. 13:59:50 14 February 12th I think. 13:59:54 15 Q. And what happened at that February 12th meeting with Ms. Walleshauser? 13:59:57 16 13:59:59 17 In advance of that meeting she had Α. asked us to prepare like individual accounts of 14:00:02 18 14:00:08 19 like instances, specific instances with him, which was pretty difficult. 14:00:14 20 14:00:15 21 14:00:20 22

of for like the specific behaviors that she was looking for us to account.

I didn't have a great understanding of what like what sexual harassment truly entailed at that point, but I did, I produced a document for her and shared it with her leading into that meeting.

And I remember she was -- I was expecting an opportunity to share to tell my story, like this was years of my life that I had spent with him.

And she was unsupportive, I would say -what's the word I'm looking for. I guess I'll say
apathetic again, frigid, that's the word I'm
looking for, she was frigid.

The questions she asked me I didn't feel like really were getting at the meat of what I had gone through. And they were -- felt to me like to be very victim blaming such as asking like why I hadn't said that I was uncomfortable to him.

It was short. Again, this was years that I had gone through and the meeting with Linda took
like 15 or 20 minutes total. And I left it feeling
very -- I had been optimistic before. I left

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14:05:56 1	A. Me, I did.
14:05:57 2	Q. When?
14:05:59 3	A. The night of February 11th.
14:06:02 4	Q. Did anyone help you in drafting this
14:06:06 5	statement?
14:06:06 6	A. No.
14:06:07 7	Q. Did you send the statement to anyone
14:06:10 8	before sending it to Ms. Walleshauser?
14:06:13 9	A. Not that I recall.
14:06:15 10	Q. Did you see the statement that any
14:06:18 11	other students had submitted to Ms. Walleshauser?
14:06:21 12	A. I mean, I have now, but at the time,
14:06:24 13	not that I recall.
14:06:30 14	Q. Is there anything in this statement
14:06:32 15	that you feel you left out?
14:06:35 16	MS. NANAU: I'm going to object to the form
14:06:38 17	of the question, you can answer.
14:06:40 18	THE WITNESS: Yes.
14:06:41 19	BY MS. NAASSANA:
14:06:42 20	Q. What do you feel you left out?
14:06:44 21	A. I think this is a snapshot of what I
14:06:50 22	experienced. I think when I wrote this, you know,

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14:06:53 23 these categories, lack of boundaries, culturally

incompetent, inappropriate touching, toxic masculinity, I made those up as like my own categorizations.

Looking back I would do more to stress how pervasive this behavior was. And I think I wrote it this way because Linda stressed that they needed like kind of specific instances. But it's difficult to pick out specific instances of like a serial predator.

And, again, I think this provides a good snapshot, but I think it was something that I pulled together quickly and without much guidance as to what should be included.

Q. The last sentence of the first paragraph states, I do not wish to see him dragged through the mud nor do I wish to discredit any of the good he has done in his years as an educator, but he is at the point where he should no longer be allowed in the presence of students.

Ms. Wood, what did you mean when you wrote I do not wish to see him dragged through the mud?

A. As I previously mentioned, at that time even when coming forward against him, I really

1 14:06:57 2 14:07:00 14:07:03 3 14:07:04 4 14:07:09 5 14:07:12 6 14:07:16 14:07:21 8 14:07:24 9 14:07:26 10 14:07:30 11 14:07:33 12 14:07:37 13 14:07:43 14 14:07:46 15 14:07:51 16 14:08:01 17 14:08:01 18 14:08:05 19 14:08:07 20 14:08:11 21 14:08:14 22 14:08:18 23

that ultimately after whatever process or whatever they talked about that they decided that he needed to be removed from campus and not contact us about it.

So in that way I do believe they took relatively quick correction action, but there was still a period of time where I was continuing to have to engage with him and uphold the charade that everything was fine.

And he was hyper attune to us and he knew something was up. In that time he e-mailed us about canceling spring break, which had already been determined as something that would proceed.

And that took a toll. Like having to engage with him in the time that -- in the time after we reported it, it took a toll.

But I was -- I was ultimately pleased that he was removed from campus in the immediate short-term.

#### BY MS. NAASSANA:

Q. Did you ever see Dr. Noonan in person after you raised your concerns with the Title IX office on February 11th, 2019?

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A. I remember in February 2019, the exact date escapes me, we went to Canada to interview an artist for Project Tiger. And it was -- I distinctly remember feeling stressed about it and the fear that he was going to know that like a report, something was imminent in terms of his behavior.

And he told me during that interview to fix my face, because I was scowling the whole time, scowling because I was so just angry and stressed. And so I do recall that, but I can't recall the specific date.

- Q. When you say you met with an artist in Canada, with whom did you go?
- A. It was the full Project Tiger team and it was with Edward Spera.
- Q. Was this before or after you raised your complaints with the Title IX office on February 11th, 2019?
- A. Again, I don't recall the specific date of it, but I remember the fear around having reported.
  - Q. Where in Canada was this?

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1 Α. It was just across the border, it was 2 like within 30 minutes from the border. And it was just like a night trip like out and back. 3

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- Was this after you had returned from Q. India?
- It was after we had returned from India, I know it was in February, I just can't recall the specific date. And I can't recall if it was after like Tassia and XXXX reports and we had discussed moving forward or if it was specifically after February 11th.
- Is it your testimony that you saw Dr. Noonan in person after you met with the Title IX office on February 11th, 2019?
- Α. Again, I can't recall the specific

# 14:15:20 16 date, but I feel like I continued to engage with 14:15:23 17 him. You feel like you continued to engage 14:15:23 18 Q. with him or you did engage with him? 14:15:26 19 MS. NANAU: Objection to form, you can 14:15:28 20 answer the question if you can. 14:15:30 21 14:15:34 22 MS. NAASSANA: Do you need the question 14:15:36 23 repeated?

14:15:38	1	THE WITNESS: Yeah, that would be great.
14:15:38	2	(The above-requested question was then
14:16:00	3	read by the reporter.)
14:16:00	4	MS. NANAU: Same objection, you can answer
14:16:03	5	if you can.
14:16:03	6	BY MS. NAASSANA:
14:16:04	7	Q. And we're talking about after your
14:16:06	8	reports to the Title IX office.
14:16:10	9	A. My memory is that we did engage with
14:16:13	10	him.
14:16:13	11	Q. What do you mean by engage with him?
14:16:16	12	A. Again, like we would constantly be
14:16:19	13	dropping by his office. He would e-mail us and
14:16:22	14	expect us to drop by. We were e-mailing
14:16:25	15	constantly, so that's my memory of the engagement.
14:16:43	16	Q. Where did you go on this trip to
14:16:46	17	Canada?
14:16:47	18	MS. NANAU: Objection to form, asked and
14:16:50	19	answered, you may answer.
14:16:51	20	THE WITNESS: It was Edward Spera's studio
14:16:54	21	in Canada. I can't tell you a specific town.
14:16:58	22	BY MS. NAASSANA:
14:16:58	23	Q. And why did you go there as a group?

14:27:26	1	don't have any recollection.
14:27:27	2	BY MS. NAASSANA:
14:27:28	3	Q. Okay. After you reported your concerns
14:27:32	4	to the Title IX office on February 11th, 2019, did
14:27:36	5	you ever attend a class with Dr. Noonan?
14:27:41	6	A. I wasn't in any of his classes at the
14:27:45	7	time, so, no.
14:27:45	8	Q. Did you ever speak with him after
14:27:48	9	February 11th, 2019?
14:27:50	10	A. I don't know. He called us all the
14:27:53	11	time. I couldn't tell you whether I did or didn't.
14:28:02	12	Q. After you reported your concerns to the
14:28:04	13	Title IX office February 11th, 2019, do you
14:28:08	14	remember e-mailing Dr. Noonan about a speaker that
14:28:10	15	was coming to campus?
14:28:11	16	A. Yes.
14:28:29	17	MS. NAASSANA: Okay. May I have this
14:28:30	18	marked.
14:28:30	19	The following was marked for Identification:
	20	EXH. Y Bates stamped Canisius 05020
	21	through 05023

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Q. So on February 12th, 2019 Dr. Noonan

BY MS. NAASSANA:

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14:29:22 1 invited you and other Project Tiger students to a 2 breakfast and reception with a speaker. 14:29:27 Is that correct? 14:29:30 Α. Yes. 14:29:30 4

> Okay. And on the last page marked Q. Canisius 05023 you responded, Dr. N, I am available for the breakfast, right?

> > Α. Correct.

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0. So you sent this e-mail after your group meeting with Ms. Walleshauser with the Title IX office, right?

> Α. Correct.

Did you report this communication from Q. 14:29:55 14 | Dr. Noonan to anyone?

> MS. NANAU: Objection to form, you may answer.

THE WITNESS: No. Again, because again we had no instruction to.

#### BY MS. NAASSANA:

Did you ask whether your could or should respond to it after you received this e-mail?

> MS. NANAU: Objection to the form, asked and

14:30:13 1 answered, you may answer.

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THE WITNESS: No.

#### BY MS. NAASSANA:

- Q. Did you tell Dr. Noonan that you didn't want to communicate with him?
- A. Do you understand like everything I've said about him. Absolutely not, of course I did not.
- Q. Okay. So you -- so you sent this e-mail on February 12th, 2019, even though you had already requested to have no contact with Dr. Noonan on February 11th, 2019, right?
- A. Correct, the most I was told was retaliation is not acceptable. There was no -- no information given whatsoever of like what retaliation would consist of, like I had no concept of what would be appropriate or inappropriate contact with him in this time before he was put on leave. I was never told anything.
- Q. Did you want to report this communication at the time?
- A. I didn't feel like it had any relevance beyond what we had already reported.

1 | had no illusion that this podcast would have any sort of an impact or mean anything to anyone, but we had to.

We were told we had to complete something to get credit. That what we had done up to that point wasn't enough to receive credit for the three-credit class and we had to produce something and Margulis was very set on it being a podcast.

- So take me back to when Dr. Noonan was 0. placed on leave. When he was placed on leave, how often did you meet with Dr. Margulis with the Project Tiger group?
- It was very ad hoc. I think ultimately Α. after some time had passed we were aiming for weekly, because that's what we were supposed to be doing with Noonan.

But it was difficult to find a time that would work for everyone. Margulis it was difficult to at times to find a time that would work for her. And so it was kind of like, yeah, ad hoc.

MS. NANAU: If we could take a little break, is that okay?

MS. NAASSANA: Yeah.

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15:13:13	1	answer if you can.
15:13:14	2	THE WITNESS: I don't remember any other
15:13:15	3	options that we discussed.
15:13:18	4	BY MS. NAASSANA:
15:13:19	5	Q. So it's possible you discussed
15:13:21	6	alternate arrangements, but you just don't
15:13:24	7	remember?
15:13:24	8	MS. NANAU: Objection to the form, you may
15:13:25	9	answer.
15:13:26	10	THE WITNESS: Yes.
15:13:39	11	BY MS. NAASSANA:
15:13:40	12	Q. Did you receive a grade strike that.
15:13:42	13	What grade did you receive for the Project
15:13:46	14	Tiger course?
15:13:46	15	A. I don't remember, probably an A.
15:13:52	16	Q. Have you ever identified that podcast
15:13:54	17	work on your CV at any time?
15:13:58	18	A. Yeah, I mentioned it in passing on
15:14:02	19	different résumés.
15:14:18	20	Q. Did the podcasts continue after this
15:14:22	21	course related work ended?
15:14:23	22	MS. NANAU: Objection to the form, you can

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15:14:24 23 answer if you can.

1 MS. NANAU: Objection to the form of the 2 question, you may answer.

THE WITNESS: I obtained credit, I just disagree about the definition of complete.

#### BY MS. NAASSANA:

- Q. Were you able to graduate on time?
- A. Yes, I graduated in May of 2020.
- Q. What was the degree that you obtained?
- A. An animal behavior ecology and conservation degree.
  - Q. Was that a Bachelor's of Science?
  - A. Yes.
  - Q. Were you a double major or just ABEC?
  - A. I graduated as just ABEC.
- Q. Okay. Did you ask for any academic accommodations during or after February 2019?
- A. I did ask for an extension on a paper in a course I had with Professor Workman. She gave me 24 hours, 24 hours in an extension.

After that I didn't feel particularly welcome to ask for any others, so that was the only extension I asked for.

Q. How much time did you ask for, how much

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15:38:29	1	additional time did you ask for?
15:38:31	2	A. I just asked for an extension.
15:38:33	3	Q. Do you remember how much time you asked
15:38:35	4	for?
15:38:35	5	MS. NANAU: Objection to the form, misstates
15:38:36	6	the prior testimony, you may answer.
15:38:40	7	THE WITNESS: I didn't ask for a specific
15:38:42	8	amount of time.
15:39:04	9	MS. NAASSANA: You didn't ask for okay.
15:39:05	10	Strike that. May I have this marked.
15:39:05	11	The following was marked for Identification:
	12	EXH. AG Bates stamped Canisius 01871
		<del>-</del>
15:39:38	13	BY MS. NAASSANA:
15:39:38 15:39:39		
	14	Q. I'm showing you what's been marked as
15:39:39	14 15	Q. I'm showing you what's been marked as Exhibit AG. Do you recall receiving these e-mails,
15:39:39 15:39:41	14 15 16	Q. I'm showing you what's been marked as Exhibit AG. Do you recall receiving these e-mails, exchanging these e-mails?
15:39:39 15:39:41 15:39:45	14 15 16 17	Q. I'm showing you what's been marked as Exhibit AG. Do you recall receiving these e-mails, exchanging these e-mails?
15:39:39 15:39:41 15:39:45 15:39:50	14 15 16 17	<ul> <li>Q. I'm showing you what's been marked as</li> <li>Exhibit AG. Do you recall receiving these e-mails,</li> <li>exchanging these e-mails?</li> <li>A. Yes, I do.</li> <li>Q. So on Thursday, February 21st you wrote</li> </ul>
15:39:39 15:39:41 15:39:45 15:39:50 15:39:51	14 15 16 17 18	<ul> <li>Q. I'm showing you what's been marked as</li> <li>Exhibit AG. Do you recall receiving these e-mails,</li> <li>exchanging these e-mails?</li> <li>A. Yes, I do.</li> <li>Q. So on Thursday, February 21st you wrote</li> <li>to Miranda Workman. Professor Workman was your</li> </ul>
15:39:39 15:39:41 15:39:45 15:39:50 15:39:51 15:39:54	14 15 16 17 18 19	<ul> <li>Q. I'm showing you what's been marked as</li> <li>Exhibit AG. Do you recall receiving these e-mails,</li> <li>exchanging these e-mails?</li> <li>A. Yes, I do.</li> <li>Q. So on Thursday, February 21st you wrote</li> <li>to Miranda Workman. Professor Workman was your</li> </ul>
15:39:39 15:39:41 15:39:45 15:39:50 15:39:51 15:39:54 15:40:00	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	<pre>Q. I'm showing you what's been marked as Exhibit AG. Do you recall receiving these e-mails, exchanging these e-mails? A. Yes, I do. Q. So on Thursday, February 21st you wrote to Miranda Workman. Professor Workman was your professor, right?</pre>
15:39:39 15:39:41 15:39:45 15:39:50 15:39:51 15:39:54 15:40:00	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Q. I'm showing you what's been marked as  Exhibit AG. Do you recall receiving these e-mails,  exchanging these e-mails?  A. Yes, I do.  Q. So on Thursday, February 21st you wrote  to Miranda Workman. Professor Workman was your  professor, right?  A. Yes, that's correct.

15:40:08	L	something	like	that.
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Q. Okay. You wrote, hello, Professor

Workman, I am e-mailing to ask if a day extension
on my biography of an activist paper would be
possible.

So you did, in fact, ask for a day extension, right?

- A. Yeah, that's correct.
- Q. And Professor Workman granted you that one day extension, right?
  - A. Yes, that's correct.
- Q. Okay. So Professor Workman granted the extension that you asked for, right?
- MS. NANAU: Objection, asked and answered, you may answer.

15:40:54 16 THE WITNESS: Yeah, correct.

## 15:40:55 17 **BY MS. NAASSANA:**

- Q. Okay. Did you ask for any personal supports or accommodations during or after February 2019?
- MS. NANAU: Objection to the form, you may 15:41:24 22 answer if you can.
- 15:41:28 23 THE WITNESS: No, I did not. I never felt

like -- I didn't know what to ask for and I didn't feel like if I did that it would be met with -- met with any enthusiasm or warmth.

#### BY MS. NAASSANA:

- Q. Who did you feel would not respond to you with enthusiasm or warmth?
- A. For starters, Professor Margulis, because, again, at that point we had been reaching out to her for support, support in getting the film footage.

And we were constantly shut down and met with frustration. Support from the Title IX office because we were constantly asking for meetings and communication and constantly shut down.

There was at least two meetings that we had requested, one before he was put on leave because we were terrified and didn't understand what that would look like, no one told us that there would be campus security there, no one told us, you know, that his access to the campus would be cut off.

It was just this big question mark, no one told us to stay away from the health science building. It was just we're going to talk to him

2 15:41:38 15:41:42 3 15:42:00 4 15:42:00 5 15:42:04 6 15:42:07 15:42:11 8 15:42:14 9 15:42:19 10 15:42:19 11 15:42:23 12 15:42:27 13 15:42:30 14 15:42:32 15 15:42:35 16 15:42:38 17 15:42:42 18 15:42:45 19 15:42:49 20 15:42:51 21 15:42:53 22 15:42:57 23

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15:43:01 1 on Thursday or whatever day it was.

Oh, my goodness, can you repeat the question.

(The above-requested question was then read by the reporter.)

THE WITNESS: Yeah, so the Title IX office told us over and over again with their actions and their complete ignorance to requests to meet with them that they didn't really care about our experience throughout this case.

We were never explicitly told that we could access the campus counseling or anything like that if we needed it.

And above all else it was just this like big dirty thing that felt like an evil elephant in the room that no one would talk about.

I knew that our professors were talking about us but never once did anyone say I'm so sorry you're going through this.

Yeah, so it was -- I didn't feel like anyone in the faculty or the Title IX office would be receptive or supportive.

BY MS. NAASSANA:

2 15:43:04 15:43:07 3 15:43:07 4 15:43:07 5 15:43:20 6 15:43:22 15:43:25 15:43:29 9 15:43:32 10 15:43:34 11

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15:43:44 14 15:43:47 15

15:43:47 16

15:43:51 17 15:43:53 18

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15:44:08 23

15:48:02 1 Α. It was my senior year, yeah. Was it both semesters of your senior 15:48:06 2 Q. year or just one? 15:48:10 3 It was both, but the pandemic hit, so 15:48:11 4 Α. it kind of tapered off the second semester. 15:48:15 5 15:48:20 6 Q. Did you ultimately end up applying for 15:48:23 this job? 15:48:24 8 I did apply for the job. And did you just have to submit this 9 15:48:26 0. 15:48:30 10 lesson plan as part of that job? 15:48:32 11 MS. NANAU: Objection to the form of the 15:48:33 12 question, you may answer. BY MS. NAASSANA: 15:48:33 13 15:48:35 14 Q. Strike that, that was a bad question. 15:48:37 15 What was -- what did the job application to 15:48:40 16 that job entail? 15:48:42 17 Α. Yeah, so this was -- if I recall correctly, this was after -- I can't remember if 15:48:43 18 15:48:48 19 this was expected in the initial application or if it was something they followed up and requested 15:48:52 20 sort of after they had whittled down candidates, 15:48:54 21

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but I believe a wrote a cover letter, I had a

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résumé.

1	And then, yeah, either at that initial point
2	or in advance of doing an interview the lesson plan
3	that I needed to create.
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#### BY MS. NAASSANA:

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- Tell me again what WMNC stands for? Q.
- Α. Walking Mountain Science or Nature Center.
  - Where is that located? Q.
  - Avon, Colorado. Α.
- Okay. Did you ultimately apply for Q. that job at WMNC?
  - Yes, I did. Α.
- Okay. Were you accepted for that job Q. 15:49:36 14 or were you hired?
  - Α. No, I got through I think the first round of interviews. I did a faux lesson to them, but I ultimately did not get the job.
  - Q. Why did you reach out to Dr. Russell for help?
- MS. NANAU: Objection to form, asked and 15:49:53 21 answered, you may answer.
- 15:49:54 22 THE WITNESS: He had specific expertise as 15:49:57 23 a -- his specialty was conservation education. Ιt

15:50:01 1 was the nature of the research I did with him.

And I knew he was a subject matter expert in that area. So I reached out to him, because I thought he would be able to give me impactful feedback.

#### BY MS. NAASSANA:

- Q. Do you think he gave you impactful feedback?
  - A. Yeah, I think his feedback was helpful.
- MS. NAASSANA: Do you mind if we take a five-minute break.

(A recess was then taken at 3:50 p.m.)

### BY MS. NAASSANA:

- Q. Ms. Wood, did there come a time when you received counseling support at Canisius?
- A. I went to the counseling center once my freshman year, so my first -- I think it was my first semester at Canisius.

I was going through like a rough breakup and wanted to talk to someone. It was underwhelming.

I went back for a follow-up the following week and the man I talked to, whose name I can't even remember, he completely forgot me.

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And like I went in with him. He wasn't like so how have you been. He introduced himself again and so that was the last time I went there.

- Q. How many appointments did you go to?
- A. That would be two.
- Q. Do you remember the name of the counselor or therapist that you saw?
  - A. No.

MS. NAASSANA: We previously requested an authorization for the release of Ms. Wood's records, if any, from the Canisius Counseling Center and we have not received them, so...

MS. NANAU: Right, there's no treatment in that testimony, right. She wasn't treated. She went to an initial session, she went back and he didn't even recognize her.

She doesn't recall the name of the therapist, there was no therapy provided. So if you want the HIPAA, then we'll give you a HIPAA, but there was no treatment.

MS. NAASSANA: I don't understand what you mean by no treatment. You visited the Canisius Counseling Center your freshman year, correct?

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15:56:07

- Q. And you'd be able to use your Americorp education grant towards business school, right?
  - A. Yeah, depending when or if I go. I think there's an expiration on it.
  - Q. Okay. In terms of your personal viewpoint, do you feel your Canisius degree is of any value?
  - A. In terms of like what it's brought me professionally, no. I think that my work experience while I was an undergraduate has been much more applicable and is where I've learned the most.
  - So, for example, I worked for the Girl Scouts of Western New York. When I was at Canisius, I started working for them the summer after my freshman or sophomore year.

So I worked for them for almost three years. And that was my first introduction into the kind of work I do now. I would compute demographic data for the girls in our programs. I would plan curriculum.

I would manage our supplies. I would help manage partnerships with different schools and

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community centers. And that work experience and being able to talk about it really gave me a leg up and the experience I needed for the job that I do now and for the Americorp role that I got, because you know, I very much believe I was selected because I already had experience working with students which was the bulk of what that job was going to entail.

And, again, the work I do day-to-day now it's a lot more adjacent to the work I did at Girl Scouts. My hiring manager who hired me, Jessica Weedman, she was an amazing boss and was the deputy chief of staff at the time, I'm still very close with her.

And she told me that -- I mean, after I was hired, she would like ask me what school I went to, because she did not look at it or care about it at all on the résumé. If anything maybe it was a checked box, but it certainly was irrelevant that my degree was in animal behavior, ecology and conservation in terms of like obtaining my job.

I think it was more so the work experience, internships I did such as through the Alaska

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Sealife Center and the National Park Service.

The fact that I was able to articulate the outcomes of those experiences really clearly on my résumé I think is ultimately what gave me a leg up and the fact that I write a damn good cover letter and I was told that my cover letter is really what got me an interview.

- Q. An interview for what job?
- A. The operations program assistant role.
- Q. This Alaska Sealife Service internship, when did you do that?
- A. It was the summer after my sophomore year, I believe. Yeah, because it wasn't right after I started at Canisius, it had been some time.

So, yeah, it was the summer of, what would that have been, 2018, summer of 2018.

- Q. How did you get that internship?
- A. Yeah, so I applied independently, it wasn't something I applied to through Canisius.

  Again, my schtick, my thing at the time was marine mammals and I wanted to work with them more in the wild environments and explore -- yeah, explore that and -- what was question, how I applied?

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